



ISSUE CLARIFICATION

NUMBER: 04-0901-040

DATE: April 1, 2002

TOPIC: Annual Statewide Provider Forums

RELEVANT SECTIONS OF THE MANUAL: Section 4 and 5

AUDIENCE: First Steps Providers

ISSUE FOR CLARIFICATION: Follow – up to Issue Clarification # 39

Providers who provide services in the following areas need to attend at least 1 State sponsored Provider Forum annually:

Audiology

Developmental Therapy (Special Instruction)

Specialized Individual and Family Counseling / Psychological Services

Nursing Services

Nutrition Services

Occupational Therapy

Physical Therapy

Social Work Services

Speech / Language Pathology

Vision Services

Other early intervention service providers who provide direct service to the eligible family and or child.

Services in the following areas do not need to attend annual Statewide Provider Forums, unless they voluntarily wish to do so:

Physicians

Transportation Providers

Interpreters

Assistive Technology Vendors

Beginning in the calendar year 2002, the First Steps providers indicated above must attend a *State First Steps* Provider Forum annually. The annual requirement to attend the provider forum will be coordinated with the provider's date of enrollment and/or Credentialing.

Effective July 1, 2002, the indicated providers will be required to submit certificate of attendance for a provider forum with the Credentialing application.

Providers who do not submit their certificate of attendance will not meet Credentialing requirements and therefore will not obtain an early intervention credential.

Providers who credential **prior** to July 1, 2002 must submit the certificate of attendance at a provider forum that was attended during the **re-credentialing time-period**. For example, a provider who credentials May 1, 2002 must submit a certificate of attendance to a Statewide Provider Forum when the **re-credential/continued education packet is submitted in May of 2003**. Only meetings that are attended during the Credentialing period will be accepted.

For providers who have not applied for their initial credential with First Steps, a certificate of attendance must be submitted to the Provider Enrollment Office by 12/31/02.

Providers who do not attend a Statewide Provider Forum will be considered to be in violation of their provider agreement.

To find the scheduled Statewide Provider Forums, please go to the Early Childhood Meeting Place: <http://129.79.180.15/calendar/date.lasso> and click on the “Calendar” icon.